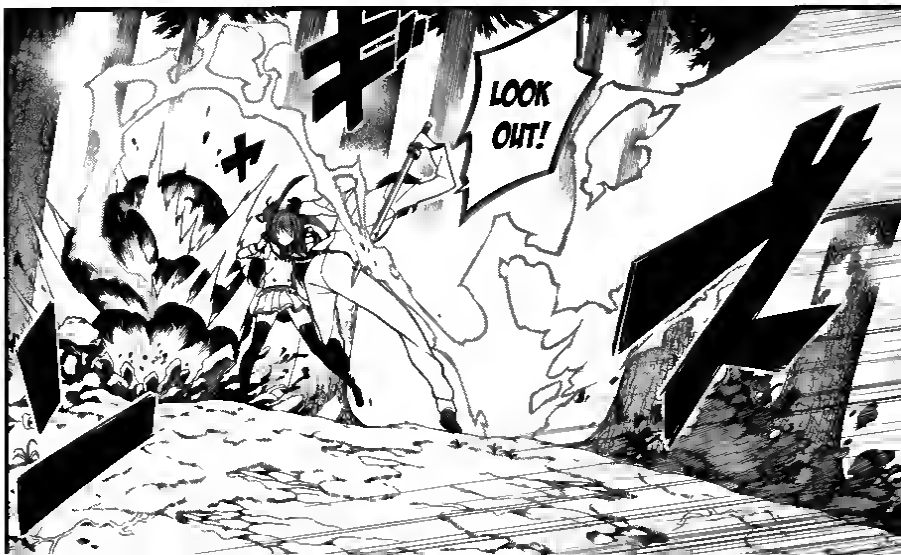
IN THE MIDDLE OF A MATCH TO RAISE THEIR RANK WITHIN THE SCHOOL!
YOU'RE REALLY A USELESS SLAVE SPIRIT!
LOOK... MAYBE I AM, BUT THIS IS A QUALIFICATION MATCH!
剣精霊使い
[漫画] 氷樹一世
[原作] 志瑞祐 [キャラクター原案] 桜はんぺん
15話
IT'S ALREADY BEEN EIGHT MINUTES SINCE THE MATCH BEGAN...
WE ONLY DEFEATED TWO OF THEM, BUT WE USED UP MORE THAN HALF OF THE TIME!
ピ
WHILE WE DEFEATED TWO ENEMIES, THEY STILL HAVE THREE LEFT... AND WE WERE TWO FROM THE START.
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BE CAREFUL, RIGHT?

CLAIRE, STOP!!
EH?


LOOK OUT!

CUTE...
CU-
BUT I FEAR THIS WOULD HURT OUR CUTE MASTER.
GOOD GRIEF, HOW MANY TRAPS HAS IT BEEN?
EST WAS SPARED DAMAGE BY HER ABILITY TO RESIST SPIRIT MAGIC,
BUT SOMEHOW, THE ENEMY SEEMS RIGHT AT HOME IN THIS FOG-FILLED FOREST.
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE IMPATIENT ABOUT THE TIME WE'VE SPENT...
BEING BASHFUL ALL AND WELL, BUT DON'T OVERDO IT!
IF WE DON'T CONTINUE TO WIN, OUR CHANCES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BLADE DANCE WILL FURTHER DIMINISH.
EVEN A DRAW WILL LOWER YOUR RANK.
THE OTHER CLASS, JUST LIKE US OF THE RAVEN CLASS, RISK THEIR RANK WITHIN THE SCHOOL AT THIS MATCH.
THERE'S NO REASON TO CALL THEM CUNNING NOW.
AS EXPECTED FROM THE CUNNING WOLVERINE CLASS.

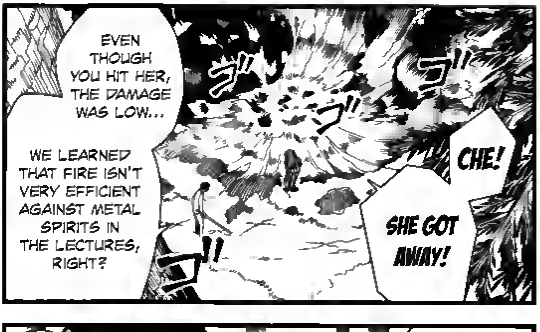
FOUND ONE.
A WOLVERINE SPIRITUALIST!
I GE-
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME.
DON'T BE IMPATIENT, CLAIRE!
I WON'T LET YOU ESCAPE ANYMORE!!
DIDN'T I WARN YOU ABOUT AN AMBUSH?!
KYAH!
UHUH ...
ゴロ

!
A WATCH TOWER?
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FOREST ...
FALLING DOWN LIKE THIS, I CAN STRIKE HOME WITH A FIRE-BALL...
HAVE SOME NERVE!
THANKS A LOT...
GOOD JOB GOBBLING UP OUR BAIT, RAVEN CLASS!
CARAPACE ARMOR... THIS FELLOW USES A METAL TYPE ELEMENTAR-WAFFE LIKE EST!

H-HOT!!

KAMITO, MOVE!!!

LOOKS LIKE A TOUGH FIGHT, KAZEHAYA KAMITO.


EVEN THOUGH YOU HIT HER, THE DAMAGE WAS LOW...
WE LEARNED THAT FIRE ISN'T VERY EFFICIENT AGAINST METAL SPIRITS IN THE LECTURES, RIGHT?
CHE!
SHE GOT AWAY!

ARGH, YOU...
IF I DON'T TRY, I WON'T KNOW, RIGHT?

OF COURSE THEY WILL PUT UP A HARD FIGHT,
ALTHOUGH THEY WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST YOU INDIVIDUALLY ...
THE ONES YOU'RE FIGHTING AGAINST RIGHT NOW
IS A TEAM OF SUPERIOR RANK.
I'M FREYA!
AT LEAST MEMORIZE YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER'S NAME!
.....
WHO WERE YOU AGAIN...
COME NOW, IS IT WRONG TO GIVE LOW-SCORING PUPILS SOME ADVICE, EVEN AS THE EXAMINER?
WHAT?
IS THAT OKAY? FOR YOU TO APPEAR IN THE MIDDLE OF A MATCH.

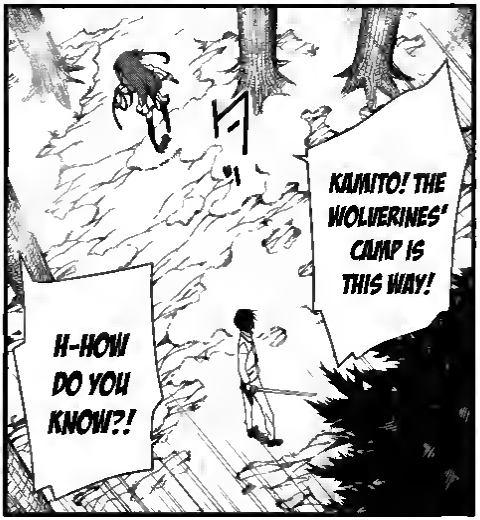
YOU WON'T MEET THE ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS BLADE DANCE IF YOU DON'T HAVE FIVE PEOPLE, WILL YOU?
W-WE WILL FIND THEM BEFORE THE DEADLINE!
ANYWAY, WITH ME AND THIS SLAVE SPIRIT, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO WIN...
IS THAT FAIR, WHEN WE'RE FIGHTING A TWO ON FIVE?
YOU KNOW,
IT'S BAD THAT YOUR TEAM CONSISTS OF ONLY TWO PEOPLE.
UGH...
WHAT A WAY TO TALK WHEN YOU USE HALF OF THE ALLOTED TIME IN THE MATCH AND ARE UNABLE TO BRING DOWN MORE THAN TWO PEOPLE.
THE QUEEN IS POWERFUL, HARDLY EVER LOSING ONE ON ONE... BUT GIVEN THE RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES, EVEN A PAWN CAN DEFEAT HER.
I ALREADY KNOW THESE THINGS!
HMM... NEVER WON THOUGH, WITH GREYWORTH AS MY OPPONENT!
YOU KNOW CHESS, KAZEHAYA KAMITO?

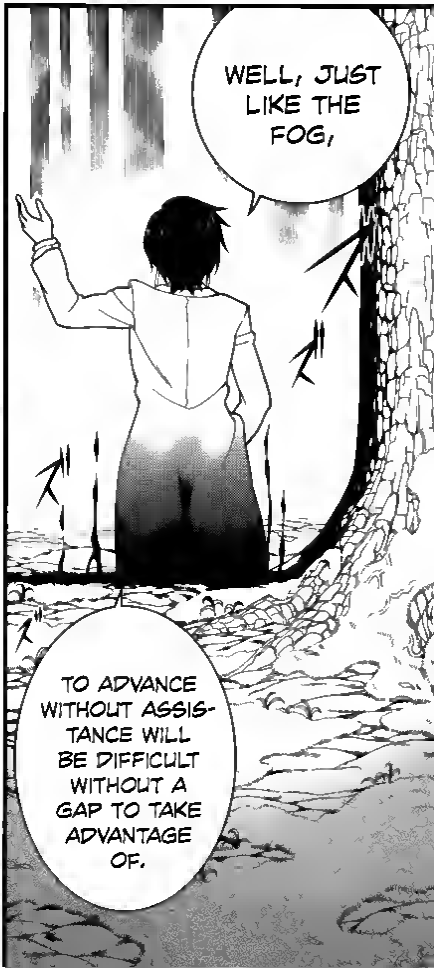
BUT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
YOUR WAY OF FIGHTING FEELS AWFULLY ISOLATED.
CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT...
IT'S TRUE.
WHAT THE INSTRUCTIONAL SCHOOL THOROUGHLY TAUGHT US WAS ASSASSINATION TECHNIQUES...
TO INDEPENDENTLY KILL... AND ESCAPE... IF YOU BLUNDER, YOU DIE.
THAT HABIT IS DEEPLY INGRAINED IN ME.
ANYWAY. THE REGULATIONS OF THE BLADE DANCE DEPEND ON THE ELEMENTAL LORDS' WHIM.
FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, IT WAS A BATTLE ROYALE... THREE YEARS AGO, INDIVIDUAL FIGHTS...
THIS TIME, IT'S A TEAM BATTLE...
THERE ARE TOO MANY ASPECTS THAT I AM LACKING IN.

YOU TOO, CLAIRE ROGUE.
I'M FINE ON MY OWN,
AND KAMITO'S JUST A SLAVE SPIRIT.
OH DEAR, YOU'VE GOT MANY PROBLEMS TO RESOLVE HERE...

FOG IS JUST ANOTHER FORM OF WATER!
YOU CAN'T BURN A GAP-

GAP...


KAMITO! THE WOLVERINES' CAMP IS THIS WAY!
H-HOW DO YOU KNOW?!


WELL, JUST LIKE THE FOG,
TO ADVANCE WITHOUT ASSISTANCE WILL BE DIFFICULT WITHOUT A GAP TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF.

WHEN I WAS BLOWN UP IN THE AIR JUST NOW, I SAW A WATCHTOWER.
IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS FOREST?
...YOU MAY HAVE YOUR BATTLE INTUITION, BUT WITH REGARDS TO THE BIG PICTURE, YOU'RE BLIND.
HOW COULD THE OPPONENT
PINPOINT OUR POSITION IN THIS DENSE FOG SO ACCURATELY?
!?
YOU'RE RIGHT... THE SPIRITUALIST JUST NOW, AS WELL AS THAT THUNDER SPIRITUALIST, GAUDILY ATTACKED US NUMEROUS TIMES.
WHERE WE ARE, AND WHO WE'RE FIGHTING AGAINST, THEY KNOW THAT BY OBSERVING FROM ABOVE.

THIS IS THE WOLVERINES' CAMP!!
IN OTHER WORDS,
NICE DEDUCTION!
CONGRATULATIONS!
A RITUAL DANCE...
HOW SNEAKY! TO PERFORM A RITUAL KAGURA TO REINFORCE YOUR ABILITY!

TL Note: 神楽 kagura is a theatrical dance in Shinto, its legendary origin being a ritual to summon the sun goddess Amaterasu, who had retreated into a cave, bringing darkness over the world.

SHE CAN'T SUMMON HER CONTRACTED SPIRIT WITHOUT THE SUPPLY OF DIVINE ESSENCE GRANTED BY THAT RITUAL KAGURA.
WE PLACED OUR BETS ON HER SUCCESS!
UH OH I CAN'T STAND THIS SLY PERSON!
WE MAY HAVE LOST SOME FIGHTS,
BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER AS LONG AS WE WIN THE GAME!
SO YOU, AS WELL AS THE TWO WE DEFEATED EARLIER, WERE ONLY BUYING TIME!
THE SUMMON-ING IS COMPLETE.
ANYWAY, IT'S TOO LATE.

WILL THINGS WORK OUT FOR THIS TEAM?

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